



# CITY OF TUCSON



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## NEWS RELEASE

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Chief of Police

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**Date:** 08/10/2012  
**TDD:** 791-2639

### OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING 700 BLOCK EAST MCMILLAN

On the afternoon of August 10, 2012, the Tucson Police Department was alerted to multiple incidents involving an adult male suspect, who was armed with a gun in the area of North First Avenue and East Roger Road. Officers from Operations Division West responded to the area after receiving reports of an aggravated assault incident as well as an armed robbery incident. Upon their arrival to the area, the officers also learned of another aggravated assault incident involving the same suspect.

Initial information indicated that the male suspect approached an adult female in the parking lot of an apartment complex near the intersection of North First Avenue and East Roger Road. At approximately 1:25 p.m. the female was walking with her child in the parking lot of the complex when the suspect approached her. As the suspect neared the female and child, he pointed a handgun directly at them before ultimately walking away from them. Neither the female nor child was injured during their interaction with the suspect.

A short while later, at approximately 1:28 p.m., the suspect approached a vehicle that was stopped in the roadway for a red signal light at the intersection of North First Avenue and East Roger Road. The suspect pointed a handgun directly at the three occupants of the vehicle. The adult male driver was able to drive away as soon as the traffic signal cycled to green. None of the occupants of the vehicle were injured during the incident. The driver of the vehicle called 911 to report the incident shortly after leaving the area.

At approximately 1:49 p.m. the male suspect entered the Circle K store located at 4160 North First Avenue. While inside the store, he gathered various food and drink items from within the business before walking up to the counter and pointing a handgun directly at the store employees, an adult female and an adult male. As soon as he left the store, the employees called 911 to report the armed robbery and provide the suspect's description. Neither employee was injured during the course of the armed robbery incident.

Officers responding to the area were flagged down by both the adult female victim that had encountered the suspect in the parking lot of the apartment complex as well as the occupants of the vehicle that he had approached in the roadway.

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.

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All of the victims advised the police personnel that they had seen the male suspect walking in a southbound direction shortly after he committed the armed robbery at the Circle K store. As an officer was speaking with the victims in the vehicle, they pointed out the suspect as he was jumping the fence of an apartment complex near the intersection of North First Avenue and East Roger Road. Numerous patrol resources responded to the area to establish containment and to attempt to locate the male. Officers initiated a ground search on foot for the suspect and located him in an alleyway in the 700 block of East McMillan. The officers noted that the male was holding a handgun. They gave him repeated commands to drop the weapon. The male did not initially comply with their directions. However, he eventually put the handgun on the ground. One of the officers deployed a pepperball gun in the direction of the male after he did not act upon repeated commands to move away from the gun. The suspect then picked the gun up again and held it up. The officers began giving commands for him to put the gun back on the ground. The suspect faced them and began moving the gun in the direction of the officers. Due to the fact that the male continued to refuse to put down his handgun and fearing for their safety, the other officer discharged his firearm at the male, who was struck by at least one bullet. Emergency medical personnel from the Tucson Fire Department responded to the area and transported the male to a local hospital for further medical evaluation and treatment. The male succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced deceased while at the hospital. He has been identified as **38-year old Dennis Riley**. Next of kin have been notified.

The officer who discharged his firearm was **Officer Todd Schladweiler, a 5-year veteran** of the Department. The officer who deployed the pepperball was **Officer Aron Lodermeier, a nearly 3-year veteran of the Department**. It has not yet been determined if the suspect fired his weapon. No other citizens or police personnel were injured or otherwise affected by the incident.

Investigative personnel from the Homicide Unit, the Aggravated Assault Unit, the Robbery Unit, the Office of Internal Affairs, and the Night Detective Unit responded to the scene to continue the investigation. Detectives collected and examined evidence from the scene. They interviewed the victims from the three separate incidents and witnesses as well as involved officers. As is standard practice in all officer-involved shooting incidents, the Homicide Unit will continue the criminal investigation. Additionally, the Office of Internal Affairs will conduct a separate and parallel administrative investigation to examine the actions of department personnel in response to this incident. This type of post-shooting administrative review is standard protocol when an officer discharges their weapon in the line of duty. The review is utilized to determine whether department policies were followed and if current training, equipment, supervision, and policies are adequate and appropriate.

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